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VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Madeleine M. Kunin
Governor of Vermont

A. James Walton, Jr.
Commissioner of Public Safety

ANNUAL REPORT
1984

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

ANNUAL REPORT
1984

STATE OF VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
WATERBURY
05676-0850

September 9, 1987

Governor Madeleine M. Kunin
State of Vermont
Office of the Governor
Pavilion Office Building
Montpelier, Vermont 05602

Dear Governor Kunin:

In accordance with the provisions of Title 3, Vermont Statutes Annotated, Section 208, I herewith submit the Annual Report for The Department of Public Safety for the year 1984.

It was recently brought to my attention that no formal report had been submitted for this year. The enclosed material is intended to summarize program highlights and provide a statistical overview of State Police activity.

Yours truly,

A. James Walton, Jr.
Commissioner

AJW/sjm

Enc.

ANNUAL REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
FISCAL YEAR 1984

Six new positions were authorized by the Legislature in Fiscal Year 1984. Two of those were badly needed drug investigators in the Criminal Investigation program. Emergency Management received three of the six positions including a Hazardous Materials Training Coordinator in the newly created Hazardous Materials Training Program (HAZMAT). A planner and a permanent part-time typist position were authorized for the Radiological Emergency Response Plan Program (RERP) also new in Fiscal Year 1984. The three Emergency Management Program positions were all limited service.

A Communications Technician position was reestablished in the Communications Division of the Support Services Program. During the previous year, a vacant Communications Technician position had been reallocated to that of Chemist-Criminalist in order to address a serious case backlog problem in the Crime Laboratory.

Following a computer needs survey conducted early in FY 1984, the department purchased its first computer, a small 2 to 10 user microcomputer. Work stations were installed in the five major program work areas of our headquarters in Waterbury. The system was fully operational just prior to the end of FY 1984. Use and implementation of the new computer occurred rapidly with the employment of several production database programs, spreadsheets and word processing applications.

A video-cassette recording studio was established and fully equipped to enhance our field training and Community Relations programs. Video monitors were also purchased for each of the field offices to take advantage of the training potential offered by the video system. This program will enhance the training capability of our existing instructional staff. The officer being trained will have the additional advantage of pacing the instruction to his or her time requirements.

The telephone system used by the eleven State Police field offices was replaced this fiscal year with modern equipment similar to that used in the department headquarters in Waterbury. It is expected that the new equipment will result in a more cost effective communications system as well as operational improvements not possible with the older equipment.

Fiscal Year 1984 also marked the first full year of operation of the Vermont Law Enforcement Incident Reporting System (VLEIS). For the first time in the state's history, a complete count of crime incidents was available from a single source. Certain crime information is extracted each month from the material submitted by each contributing agency and forwarded to the FBI for inclusion in the FBI's Uniform Crime Report (UCR) program. The VLEIS system provides crime data from every corner of Vermont. VLEIS is in fact being considered as a model for enhancements to the UCR program.

The Law Enforcement Program provides general law enforcement services to those areas of the state which do not have similar services of their own. These areas include some of the more rural locations in Vermont. Dispatch services are also provided for many local police agencies, some fire departments and a few emergency medical services in various parts of the state as well.

One of the major concerns of the department was the failure to achieve compliance with the national 55 MPH speed limit. It was determined that 51.4% of the traffic traveling Vermont's limited access highways was exceeding the speed limit. The lack of compliance carries with it the possibility of federal sanctions in the form of withholding $1.9 million in federal highway funds.

Accidents investigated by State Police were down 7.2% in FY 1984 over the previous year. However, fatal accidents rose by 13.8% and accident fatalities (numbers of persons killed in accidents) were up by 22.3% over the same period a year ago.

Fiscal Year 1984 saw a significant increase in the number of DWI arrests reflective of the substantial increase in federal support for this activity as well as state effort. DWI arrests were up by slightly over 46% in FY 1984 over FY 1983. Almost half of the federal highway safety funds received during FY 1984 were devoted to DWI enforcement. The result was the highest number of DWI arrests in the history of the department (3,042).

The sum of $15,000.00 was appropriated in the Law Enforcement Program for use by the State Police Advisory Commission to conduct a State Police manpower study. The commission was to report on its findings and recommendations to the Speaker of the House , President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Appropriations Committees of the House and Senate in January 1984.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION PROGRAM
STATISTICAL DATA - ARSON
FISCAL YEARS 1981-1984

ITEM	1981	1982	1983	1984	4 YR AVG	'84 vs AVG
FIRES INVESTIG	560	474	480	452	492	-8.04%
NON-ARSON:	289	277	251	252	267	-5.71%
JUVENILE	16	9	14	2	10	-80.49%
OTHER	273	268	237	250	257	-2.72%
ARSON:	271	197	229	200	224	-10.81%
JUVENILES	32	14	16	6	17	-64.71%
ADULT	46	29	67	52	49	7.22%
UNKNOWN	193	154	146	142	159	-10.55%
FIRE DEATHS	13	20	26	21	20	5.00%

LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM
STATISTICAL DATA
FISCAL YEARS 1981-1984

ITEM	1981	1982	1983	1984	4 YR AVG	'84 vs. AV
ACCIDENTS INVES	6,404	6106	5529	5131	5,793	-11.42%
FATAL ACCIDENTS	106	92	87	99	96	3.13%
ACC. FATALITIES	115	107	94	115	108	6.73%
CRIMINAL INVEST	13,053	13616	14487	15788	14,236	10.90%
TRAFF CITATIONS	45,863	51110	58948	54188	52,527	3.16%
55 MPH CITATION	19,506	25964	32900	26870	26,310	2.13%
DWI ARRESTS	1,020	1669	2580	3042	2,078	46.41%
TRUCKS WEIGHED	13,587	13014	13854	5824	11,570	-49.66%

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
STRENGTH REPORT

30 JUNE 1984 AUTHORIZED STRENGTH FISCAL YEAR 1984

PROGRAM	SP	CIV	EXEMPT	TOTAL
ADMINISTRATION	1	14	3	18
LAW ENFORCEMENT	195	67	0	262
SUPPORT SERVICES	15	30	0	45
CRIMINAL INVEST	53	2	0	55
EMERGENCY MNGT	0	16	1	17
TOTAL DEPARTMENT	264	129	4	397

30 JUNE 1984 ACTUAL STRENGTH FISCAL YEAR 1984

PROGRAM	SP	CIV	EXEMPT	TOTAL
ADMINISTRATION	1	13	2	16
LAW ENFORCEMENT	195	66	0	261
SUPPORT SERVICES	15	30	0	45
CRIMINAL INVEST	53	2	0	55
EMERGENCY MNGT	0	15	1	16
TOTAL DEPARTMENT	264	126	3	393
VACANT POSITIONS	0	3	1	4

FY84

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
JULY 1, 1983 - JUNE 30, 1984

PROGRAM	REVISED FY'84 APPROPRIATION	FY'84 EXPENDITURE	REVERSION
ADMINISTRATION	$559,900	$551,258	$8,642
LAW ENFORCEMENT	$9,824,085	$9,719,798	$104,287
SUPPORT SERVICES	$1,701,100	$1,676,593	$24,507
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION	$2,217,200	$2,187,070	$30,130
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	$753,500	$660,706	$92,794
TOTAL DEPARTMENT	$15,055,785	$14,795,425	$260,360

SOURCE OF FUNDS	REVISED FY'84 APPROPRIATION	FY'84 EXPENDITURE	REVERSION
GENERAL FUND	$6,553,383	$6,506,943	$46,440
TRANSPORTATION FUND	$7,131,085	$7,055,011	$76,074
FEDERAL FUNDS	$619,162	$537,646	$81,516
SPECIAL FUNDS	$117,000	$118,491	-$1,491
INTERDEPARTMENT TRANSFER	$635,155	$577,334	$57,821
TOTAL DEPARTMENT	$15,055,785	$14,795,425	$260,360

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
JULY 1, 1983 - JUNE 30, 1984

PROGRAM	REVISED FY'84 APPROPRIATION	FY'84 EXPENDITURE	REVERSION	%
GENERAL FUND				
LAW ENFORCEMENT	$4,251,883	$4,221,975	$29,908	0.7%
CRIM INVESTIGATION	$2,164,200	$2,154,305	$9,895	0.5%
EMERGENCY MGT. (1)	$137,300	$130,663	$6,637	4.8%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	$6,553,383	$6,506,943	$46,440	0.7%
TRANSPORTATION FUND				
ADMINISTRATION	$486,400	$479,506	$6,894	1.4%
LAW ENFORCEMENT	$5,126,985	$5,090,874	$36,111	0.7%
SUPPORT SERVICES (2)	$1,468,100	$1,440,971	$27,129	1.8%
EMERGENCY MGT. (3)	$49,600	$43,660	$5,940	12.0%
TOTAL TRANSPORTATION	$7,131,085	$7,055,011	$76,074	1.1%
TOTAL GEN/TRANS. FUNDS				
ADMINISTRATION	$486,400	$479,506	$6,894	1.4%
LAW ENFORCEMENT	$9,378,868	$9,312,849	$66,019	0.7%
SUPPORT SERVICES	$1,468,100	$1,440,971	$27,129	1.8%
CRIM. INVESTIGATION	$2,164,200	$2,154,305	$9,895	0.5%
EMERGENCY MGT.	$186,900	$174,323	$12,577	6.7%
TOTAL GEN/TRANS. FUNDS	$13,684,468	$13,561,954	$122,514	0.9%

NOTES - (1) SHELTER/RADEF OFFICER POSITION VACANCY.

(2) $9900 OF SUPP. SERV. BALANCE DUE TO PAY ACT TUITION UNUSED.

(3) HAZMAT PROGRAM IN FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION.

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VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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STATE OF VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
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Yours truly,

A. James Walton, Jr.
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ANNUAL REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
FISCAL YEAR 1985

The Motorboat and Snowmobile Registration program was transferred to the Department of Motor Vehicles effective July 1, 1984. All funding, equipment and the three positions associated with the program were also transferred from the program Administration. The staffing of the Emergency Management Program was reduced by one position during this fiscal year. A 100% federally funded position with similar and overlapping duties and responsibilities replaced a 50/50 state/federal funded Shelter RADEF Officer position which had been vacant for some time.

As a direct result of the State Police Advisory Commission study conducted last year, two additional drug investigators were authorized in the Criminal Investigation Program. This brings the total number of drug investigators in this program to four.

Commissioner Paul R. Philbrook retired in July of 1984 and was replaced by former Deputy Attorney General Charles A. Bristow. Commissioner Philbrook had served in this capacity since February of 1980.

A physical fitness incentive program was initiated for State Police after several months of intensive study. This is a major step towards insuring the physical fitness of State Police officers throughout their careers with the department. The program is incentive driven based on competition among individual officers and among groups with various motivational awards for specific fitness achievements.

The first annual Vermont Crime Report was published by the Vermont Criminal Information Center with statewide crime information obtained from the Vermont Law Enforcement Incident Reporting System (VLEIS). The report received considerable media attention and favorable comments from many sources. In addition to the annual report, the VCIC also publishes basic statistical information on a quarterly basis which provides comparative data on crime and criminal activities by town/county for consecutive years and within the same quarterly periods.

Utilization of the department's in-house computer has exceeded all estimates and a second computer of the same size and type as the first one was purchased and "networked" with the original computer. A five year computer plan was developed for the department by an employee committee working in conjunction with personnel from State Information Systems. The plan was designed to respond to short term requirements and address long term needs of the department. The project is updated and evaluated on an annual basis.

Steps were taken to resolve the long standing issue of whether it is feasible to relocate the Department of Public Safety communications facility on top of Mt Mansfield into a "colocation" area used by several commercial broadcasters. This issue was first discussed in the early 1950's and was the subject of a study commissioned by the department in the mid 1970's. During this fiscal year, two reports were developed detailing the needs of the department and the concerns we have regarding colocation together with a list of several options for further consideration.

For the second year, Vermont failed to meet the compliance criteria for the national 55 MPH speed limit. This situation somewhat compounded the problem from the previous year and again the state is faced with the likelihood of sanctions in the form of federal highway funds being withheld.

Accidents investigated by State Police were up slightly over FY 1984, 3.8%, to 5,325. The number of fatal accidents also showed a small increase, up by just over 2%. The number of accident fatalities, i.e., numbers of persons killed, was the same as for the previous year 115. The number of DWI arrests was down by 12.7% compared to last year. This may in fact be related to the very intense DWI enforcement program conducted not only by this department, but by many local departments and sheriff's departments as well.

LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM
STATISTICAL DATA
FISCAL YEARS 1982-1985

ITEM	1982	1983	1984	1985	4 YR AVG	'85 vs AVG
ACCIDENTS INVES	6106	5529	5131	5325	5,523	-3.58%
FATAL ACCIDENTS	92	87	99	101	95	6.60%
ACC. FATALITIES	107	94	115	115	108	6.73%
CRIMINAL INVEST	13616	14487	15788	13694	14,396	-4.88%
TRAFF CITATIONS	51110	58948	54188	52209	54,114	-3.52%
55 MPH CITATION	25964	32900	26870	35747	30,370	17.70%
DWI ARRESTS	1669	2580	3042	2655	2,487	6.78%
TRUCKS WEIGHED	13014	13854	5824	6591	9,821	-32.89%

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION PROGRAM
STATISTICAL DATA - ARSON
FISCAL YEARS 1982-1985

ITEM	1982	1983	1984	1985	4 YR AVG	'85 vs AVG
FIRES INVESTIG	474	480	452	467	468	-0.27%
NON-ARSON:	277	251	252	284	266	6.77%
JUVENILE	9	14	2	23	12	91.67%
OTHER	268	237	250	261	254	2.76%
ARSON:	197	229	200	183	202	-9.52%
JUVENILES	14	16	6	14	13	12.00%
ADULT	29	67	52	15	41	-63.19%
UNKNOWN	154	146	142	154	149	3.36%
FIRE DEATHS	20	26	21	14	20	-30.86%

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
STRENGTH REPORT

30 JUNE 1985 AUTHORIZED STRENGTH FISCAL YEAR 1985

PROGRAM	SP	CIV	EXEMPT	TOTAL
ADMINISTRATION	1	11	3	15
LAW ENFORCEMENT	194	67	0	261
SUPPORT SERVICES	16	30	0	46
CRIMINAL INVEST	55	2	0	57
EMERGENCY MNGT	0	15	1	16
TOTAL DEPARTMENT	266	125	4	395

30 JUNE 1985 ACTUAL STRENGTH FISCAL YEAR 1985

PROGRAM	SP	CIV	EXEMPT	TOTAL
ADMINISTRATION	1	11	2	14
LAW ENFORCEMENT	192	65	0	257
SUPPORT SERVICES	16	29	0	45
CRIMINAL INVEST	54	2	0	56
EMERGENCY MNGT	0	13	1	14
TOTAL DEPARTMENT	263	120	3	386
VACANT POSITIONS	3	5	1	9

FY85

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
JULY 1, 1984 - JUNE 30, 1985

PROGRAM	REVISED FY'85 APPROPRIATION	FY'85 EXPENDITURE	REVERSION
ADMINISTRATION	$479,660	$462,997	$16,663
LAW ENFORCEMENT	$10,615,668	$10,476,506	$139,162
SUPPORT SERVICES	$1,836,536	$1,819,910	$16,626
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION	$2,364,075	$2,316,428	$47,647
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	$886,250	$742,527	$143,723
TOTAL DEPARTMENT	$16,182,189	$15,818,368	$363,821

SOURCE OF FUNDS	REVISED FY'85 APPROPRIATION	FY'85 EXPENDITURE	REVERSION
GENERAL FUND	$6,838,175	$6,755,630	$82,545
TRANSPORTATION FUND	$8,046,085	$7,953,222	$92,863
FEDERAL FUNDS	$682,100	$520,289	$161,811
SPECIAL FUNDS	$78,707	$70,439	$8,268
INTERDEPARTMENT TRANSFER	$537,122	$518,787	$18,335
TOTAL DEPARTMENT	$16,182,189	$15,818,367	$363,822

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
JULY 1, 1984 - JUNE 30, 1985

PROGRAM	REVISED FY'85 APPROPRIATION	FY'85 EXPENDITURE	REVERSION	%
GENERAL FUND				
LAW ENFORCEMENT	$4,361,400	$4,312,862	$48,538	1.1%
CRIM. INVESTIGATION	$2,311,075	$2,279,853	$31,222	1.4%
EMERGENCY MGT.	$165,700	$162,915	$2,785	1.7%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	$6,838,175	$6,755,630	$82,545	1.2%
TRANSPORTATION FUND				
ADMINISTRATION	$454,160	$445,885	$8,275	1.8%
LAW ENFORCEMENT	$5,957,100	$5,889,777	$67,323	1.1%
SUPPORT SERVICES	$1,584,375	$1,569,588	$14,787	0.9%
EMERGENCY MGT.	$50,450	$47,972	$2,478	4.9%
TOTAL TRANSPORTATION	$8,046,085	$7,953,222	$92,863	1.2%
TOTAL GEN/TRANS. FUNDS				
ADMINISTRATION (1)	$454,160	$445,885	$8,275	1.8%
LAW ENFORCEMENT (2)	$10,318,500	$10,202,639	$115,861	1.1%
SUPPORT SERVICES (3)	$1,584,375	$1,569,588	$14,787	0.9%
CRIM. INVESTIGATION(4)	$2,311,075	$2,279,853	$31,222	1.4%
EMERGENCY MGT. (5)	$216,150	$210,887	$5,263	2.4%
TOTAL GEN/TRANS. FUNDS	$14,884,260	$14,708,852	$175,408	1.2%

NOTES - (1) $7,919 OF $8,275 IS PERSONAL SERVICES (VACANCY/TURNOVER).

(2) $105,633 OF $115,861 IS PERSONAL SERVICES(VACANCY/TURNOVER).

(3) $6,165 OF $14,787 DUE TO STATE POLICE SHARE OF COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM WHICH WAS UNDERSPENT. REMAINDER DUE MAINLY TO CONTRACTUAL/CONSULTING UNDERSPENT.

(4) APPROXIMATELY $14,000 OF BALANCE DUE TO HOLIDAY OVERTIME UNDERSPENT. $572 DUE TO OPERATING UNDERSPENT. REMAINDER DUE TO TURNOVER.

(5) EMERGENCY MGT. TRANS. FUND BALANCE DUE TO $1,693 BALANCE IN HAZMAT OPERATING, AND LOWER OVERTIME AND TEMP COSTS THAN BUDGETED IN HAZMAT.
EMERGENCY MGT. GENERAL FUND BALANCE DUE TO SHELTER/RADEF OFFICER VACANCY.